

Wayne Allard

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SENATOR ALLARD GOES TO BAT FOR COLORADOANS VICTIMIZED IN INDONESIA, BLOCKS FUNDING FOR INDONESIAN MILITARY

Legislative response to 2002 attack on two Colorado residents, eight other Americans

WASHINGTON – U.S. Senator Wayne Allard (R-Colorado) said Wednesday that the Senate Foreign Operations Appropriations Subcommittee has included his amendment in the 2006 Foreign Operations Appropriations bill that prohibits U.S. International Military Education Training funds from going to Indonesia until the Indonesian government cooperates fully in the investigation into a 2002 incident in which two Americans were murdered.

The legislation is in response to an August 31, 2002 attack on 10 Americans living in Indonesia. During that attack, hundreds of rounds of ammunition were fired, two were left dead and most of the survivors suffered multiple gunshot wounds. Following a visit from Colorado resident Patsy Spiers, one of the survivors who lost her husband in the ambush, Senator Allard contacted President Bush, asking that he urge the Indonesian government to investigate the attack. That investigation implicated the Indonesian military.

Although the Indonesian government now has conducted two investigations into the ambush, and the FBI has made multiple visits to the country, satisfactory answers have yet to be provided. The FBI has been able to identify only one of the attackers, and no indictments or arrests have been made by the government of Indonesia.

“This has been going on for three years now, and the matter is no closer to being resolved. Under these circumstances, it is unthinkable that the United States should provide military assistance to Indonesia,” Senator Allard said. “This amendment offers Mrs. Spiers and the other victims a measure of justice until we have some answers.”

“I want to thank Senator Mitch McConnell for his assistance in getting this amendment incorporated into the legislation,” Senator Allard said. “We have no choice but to respond to such attacks against Americans with resolve and determination.”

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